

**CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS**

11. (Amended) The isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule or nucleic acid molecule complementary thereto of claim 10 wherein the nucleotide sequence or the fragment of said nucleotide sequence or complement thereto specifically hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:199, SEQ ID NO:200, SEQ ID NO:201, or SEQ ID NO:202.

12. (Amended) The isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule or nucleic acid molecule complementary thereto of claim 11 comprising SEQ ID NO:199 or SEQ ID NO:201.

15. (Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(a) a pre-pro persephin nucleotide sequence as set forth SEQ ID NO:203, SEQ ID NO:204, SEQ ID NO:205, or SEQ ID NO:206 or a polynucleotide that specifically hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:203, SEQ ID NO:204, SEQ ID NO:205, or SEQ ID NO:206;

(b) a pre-pro region of a persephin polynucleotide as set forth in SEQ ID NO:213, SEQ ID NO:214, SEQ ID NO:215, or SEQ ID NO:216;

(c) a pre- region of a persephin polynucleotide as set forth in SEQ ID NO:207, SEQ ID NO:208, SEQ ID NO:209, or SEQ ID NO:210;

(d) a pro- region of a persephin polynucleotide as set forth in SEQ ID NO:211, or SEQ ID NO:212; or

(e) a fragment thereof comprising at least 15 contiguous nucleotides.

30. The isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule or nucleic acid molecule complementary thereto of claim 28, which specifically hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:199 or SEQ ID NO:201.

37. The nucleic acid molecule or nucleic acid molecule complementary thereto or fragment of claim 34, which specifically hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:199, SEQ ID NO:200, SEQ ID NO:201, or SEQ ID NO:202.